

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET

25X1

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Plants and Factories under the Seventh Main Administration, Ministry of Chemical Industry	DATE DISTR.	25X17 April 1953
DATE OF INFO.	[REDACTED]	NO. OF PAGES	25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED	[REDACTED]	REQUIREMENT NO.	[REDACTED]
		REFERENCES	[REDACTED]

25X1

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

1. Following is a list of the plants and factories subordinate to the Seventh Main Administration of the Ministry of Chemical Industry and all the pertinent details known to me.
2. United Pharmaceutical Works (Spojene Zavody Farmaceutische ---SPOFA)

25X1 The management of SPOFA, located in Prague II, supervised factories in different places in Bohemia and Moravia. [REDACTED]  
 25X1 [REDACTED] the most important ones were in Prague-Modrany / 5001N-  
 25X1 1425E /, which is the largest, Prague IX-Vysocany, and Usti nad Labem. All the  
 25X1 factories were formerly private property, some of them having belonged to the  
 25X1 Swiss firms Wander and Ciba. Pharmaceuticals were produced by these various  
 25X1 factories [REDACTED]. Pharmaceutical production was  
 25X1 scheduled to be increased through an expansion of existing facilities [REDACTED]  
 25X1 [REDACTED]  
 25X1 rumors were current to the effect that the factories under SPOFA would  
 25X1 be subdivided into independent enterprises and placed under the jurisdiction  
 25X1 of the Ministry of Health. [REDACTED]  
 25X1 [REDACTED]  
 25X1 The former director of SPOFA was a pharmacist named Josefina CHMELLOVA,  
 25X1 who was purged in the wake of SLANSKY's arrest; she had been a prominent  
 25X1 figure in the Party, having participated in the Spanish Civil War. [REDACTED]  
 25X1 Ing. (fmu) BENDA, a young chemist and fervent  
 25X1 Communist, was the chief engineer of SPOFA. The administrative deputy was  
 25X1 (fmu) PALKOVSKY, and the head of the financial branch was (fmu) PLESINGER  
 25X1 who was formerly director of the Fanto Oil Refinery in Pardubice.  
 25X1

L21

25X1

SECRET

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI	<input type="checkbox"/>	AEC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
-------	-------------------------------------	------	-------------------------------------	------	-------------------------------------	-----	-------------------------------------	-----	--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

SECRET

-2-

Slovakofarma

3. [redacted] the Slovakofarma factory [redacted]

25X1 [redacted]  
 25X1 [redacted] was an old factory which had been expanded and  
 25X1 modernized. [redacted] pharmaceuticals  
 25X1 were turned out there. In Bratislava, on Bottova Ul. 5, was a  
 25X1 research unit which was under Slovakofarma's jurisdiction; the head  
 25X1 of this research unit was Dr. (fmu) TAMCHYNA.

United Lacquer and Paint Works (Spojene Tovarny na Barvy a Laky)

4. With its main offices in Prague XIII, these Works had about 15 factories spread about Bohemia and Moravia. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] the largest ones were located in Prague IX-Hloubetin, Kralupy /5014N-1419E/, Uheriske Hradiste /4904N-1727E/, and Usti nad Labem. All were rather small and have been reconstructed since World War II [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] The factories in Kralupy and Uheriske Hradiste were the most modern.  
 25X1 Laquers, paints, and solvents were produced by [redacted] these factories. The quality was very poor and the variety was quite limited because of shortages of proper ingredients, which had to be imported. Acetone produced in Czechoslovakia was of too poor a quality to meet the needs of the lacquer industry. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] none of the factories had its own power station, and only the plants in Uheriske Hradiste and Kralupy had spur tracks leading into the factory area. The Works had its own research institute, which was located on Sokolska trida in Prague X. The director of the Works was (fmu) KOLAR, a former worker. His administrative deputy was (fmu) BAROCH, an expert in lacquers, who was an unenthusiastic Party member.

Slovakian Chemical Works (Slovenske Lucebni Zavody)

5. This plant [redacted] was located in Likier /4834N-1957E/. It was quite old but was expanded in 1950 and 1951 by the construction of a new lacquers department. This new building replaced the old lacquers plant in Bratislava, which was transferred to the Ministry for storage purposes. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] Its principal products were lacquers, paints, and solvents; charcoal, acetone, acetic acid, methyl alcohol, butyl alcohol, ethyl alcohol, and other derivatives from wood distillation. Most of its wood was obtained from the forests in the surrounding area. There seemed to have been a shortage of proper ingredients for the production of lacquers, because many of the complaints of poor quality were excused for this reason. Difficulties have also been encountered in obtaining chemically pure acetone.

25X1 [redacted]  
 25X1 [redacted] the plant director was Dr. (fmu) LENGEYEL, a Slovakian chemist, but rumors were current that he would soon be replaced by a worker.

Fotochema

6. [redacted] this plant [redacted] was located in Hradec Kralove. It was very small, and [redacted] its products were of very poor quality. It produced photographic film, X-ray film, and photographic paper. [redacted] this plant was scheduled to be transferred to another Ministry [redacted]

SECRET

SECRET

-3-

Central Bohemian Chemical Works (Stredoceske Chemicke Zavody)

7. The Central Bohemian Chemical Works was formed after the 1949 reorganization of the chemical industry for the purpose of combining a few small plants into an administrative unit. The administrative offices were located in Prague until 1951, at which time they were transferred to Melnik [5021N-1429E], a small town about 20 km. north of Prague. The most important plants in this administrative unit were located in Psovka [5022N-1428E] and Velvary [5017N-1415E]. Both plants were constructed in the 1920's.

25X1 [ ] however,

25X1 [ ] much new construction will be done because neither of these plants produced goods which were considered to be of great importance to the Czech national economy. Among the items produced by these

25X1 plants were enamels ("fritty" and "glasury"), used in the glass and ceramics industries, special glues, bronze paints, and a solution known by the trade name of "Solanka" which was used for preserving milk. Solanka was shipped in steel drums; glues were shipped in linen sacks.

25X1 [ ] the manager of these Works has been replaced by a former worker. [ ] the administrative deputy was (fnu) FRYDRYCH, formerly a high official in the Society for Chemical and Steel Production (Spolek pro Chemickou a Hutni Vyrobu). Although an anti-Communist and considered politically unreliable, FRYDRYCH was permitted to retain his position because of his ability as a trade expert in the chemical field.

Technoplyn

8. The management of this enterprise was located in Prague and it had factories throughout Czechoslovakia. It was the successor of an old firm [ ] AGA [ ] and [ ] was formerly German. This enterprise produced compressed hydrogen and oxygen and also handled the distribution of these items.

SECRET